

since the late Seventies. Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) implemented by the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment offers opportunity to families living below poverty line to augment their income and cross poverty line through acquisition of credit based productive assets which would provide self employment on a sustainable basis. Families of rural youth living below poverty line are also covered under the IRDP. Since 1995-96, through a modification of the IRDP guidelines, a new category of beneficiaries viz. educated, unemployed, trained rural youth has been made eligible for a higher subsidy amount of Rs. 7,500/- or 50% of the project cost, whichever is less. A programme for Training of Rural Youth for Self Employment (TRYSEM), which is an allied programme of IRDP, seeks to impart new skills and upgrade existing skills of the rural youth in order to make them better equipped to utilise the assistance under IRDP in a sustained manner. Employment opportunities under the Employment Assurance Scheme and Jawahar Rozgar Yojana are also provided by this Ministry for the unemployed in rural areas which also include rural youths.

LPG Cylinders

2845. SHRI SANAT MEHTA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for restructuring the supply of LPG cylinders to a registered consumer by Indian Oil Corporation;

(b) whether supply of only 10 cylinders in a year is a short term measure or permanent one; and

(c) the reasons of stopping the supply of kerosene to consumers having facility of two gas cylinders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) Due to restricted availability of LPG and to prevent diversion of domestic LPG for unauthorised uses, Government has issued directives to all the Public Sector Oil Companies including Indian Oil Corporation Ltd., to regulate the supplies of LPG cylinders on the following lines :

(i) LPG refills be supplied to the Customers not before 21 days from the date of previous delivery by the Oil Companies.

(ii) The per capita consumption of the customer to be restricted to 145 Kgs per annum. Supplies as above meet the normal requirement of a household.

(c) SKO is a deficit product and 40% of the annual consumption within the country is imported. SKO is used primarily by the households for cooking and lighting purposes. Majority of DBC holders are in cities, where SKO is not required for lighting or cooking. In fact,

quota meant for LPG consumers is often diverted for black-marketing or adulteration. It was therefore considered necessary to stop SKO allocation to DBC holders, so that the same can be allotted to other needy persons. This was referred to State Governments to implement.

Central Administrative Tribunal

2846. SHRI BHAKTA CHARAN DAS : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Conference of Chief Secretaries to review the functioning of Central Administrative Tribunal and also of State Administrative Tribunal has been held recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the suggestions made by the conference in regard to clean administration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONYAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The major recommendations made by the Conference of Chief Secretaries held on 20.11.1996 in New Delhi to discuss an agenda for effective and responsive administration are given in the statement enclosed.

Statement

Recommendations of the Conference of Chief Secretaries held in New Delhi on 20.11.1996.

(i) The State Governments will be requested to devise suitable mechanisms including a high powered Civil Service Board and amend relevant rules for transparent decisions on postings, promotions and transfers of officials at all levels. These Boards could be strengthened in their political functioning by the appointment of a Civil Services Ombudsman to deal with the grievances of officials.

(ii) The approach to the elimination of corruption in the public service needs to address prevention, surveillance and deterrent prosecution, and deal ruthlessly with the nexus between criminals and unscrupulous elements.

(iii) The Government of India and State Governments should draw up a Charter of Ethics and Civil Service Code for the civil service.